



North West Water

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*** PLEASE NOTE THE NEW VENUE FOR THE
MEETING. DIRECTIONS AND STREET MAP ENCLOSED**

12th June, 1980

To: Members of the South Lancashire
Fisheries Advisory Committee:
(Messrs R. D. Houghton (Chairman);
A. G. R. Brown; J. Clegg; J. Johnson;
G. Jones; J. P. Lord; R. H. Wiseman;
Dr. R. B. Broughton; Professor W. E. Kershaw;
and the Chairman of the Authority
(G. Mann); the Vice Chairman of the Authority
(A. Richardson) and the Chairman of the
Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee
(T. A. F. Barnes) (ex officio)).

Dear Member,

A meeting of the SOUTH LANCASHIRE FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
will be held at 2.30 P.M. on THURSDAY, 19TH JUNE, 1980, in
* CONFERENCE ROOM 1, at the RIBBLE DIVISION OFFICE, PENNINE HOUSE,
STANLEY STREET, PRESTON, for consideration of the following
business.

Yours faithfully,

G. W. SHAW,

Director of Administration.

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd April, 1980 (enclosed herewith together with the Minutes of the meeting of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee held on 28th April, 1980).
3. Fishing Offences and Prosecutions 1979/80.
4. Report by the Area Fisheries Officer on Fisheries Activities.
5. Any other business.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
SOUTH LANCASHIRE
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2ND APRIL, 1980

Present:

R.D. Houghton, Esq. (Chairman)	
T.A.F. Barnes, Esq.	J. Johnson, Esq.
A.G.R. Brown, Esq.	G. Jones, Esq.
Dr. R.B. Broughton	Professor W.E. Kershaw
J. Clegg, Esq.	R.H. Wiseman, Esq.

21. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Mr. J.P. Lord, Mr. G. Mann and Mr. A. Richardson.

22. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

RESOLVED:

That, subject to the inclusion of Mr. J. Clegg to the list of apologies for absence, the Minutes of the last meeting held on 9th January, 1980, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

23. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEE - LETTER FROM MR. J. WATSON

It was reported that a letter had been received from Mr. J. Watson of the National Association of Specimen Groups requesting membership of the Committee. The Chairman reported that he had been notified that Mr. Watson no longer wished to be considered for membership and had withdrawn his request.

24. ROD AND LINE LICENCE DUTIES

In accordance with Minute No. 40(7) of the Authority on 11th February, 1980, instructing the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee to formulate proposals for increases in fishing licence duties to be effective from 1st January, 1981, of a level at least equal to forecast increases in inflation up to and including 1981, consideration was given to increases in rod and line licence duties from 1st January 1981 as follows:

	<u>Present Duty</u>	<u>Revised Duty</u>
	£ p	£ p
<u>Salmon Whole Area</u>		
Season Adult	15.00	21.70
Part Season from June 1	10.00	14.50
Season Junior etc.	7.50	10.90
Part Season Junior from June 1	5.00	7.20
7 day	2.50	3.70
<u>Migratory Trout Whole Area</u>		
Season Adult	5.00	7.20
Season Junior etc.	2.50	3.60
7 day	1.00	1.50

	<u>Present Duty</u>	<u>Revised Duty</u>
	£ p	£ p
<u>Non Migratory Trout (Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout & Char) Freshwater Fish and Eels</u>		
Season Adult	3.00	4.30
Season Junior	1.50	2.20
7 day	.50	.80
<u>Commercial Eel Fishing</u>		
Fixed Eel Traps	25.00 per trap	36.25
Eel or Fyke nets	.50 per net	.75
Traps, Putcheons or Baskets	5.00 per 25 (or part thereof)	7.25

To conform with the instruction of the Authority it was necessary to increase licence duties by 45%, using the probable gross expenditure on fisheries in 1979/80 as the base point and measuring forecast increases in inflation from that point.

Although appreciating the need for licence duties to take account of inflation. Members expressed concern at the method by which the proposed new duties were calculated.

With Mr. J. Clegg dissenting it was

RECOMMENDED

That the existing rod and line licence duties (as detailed above) be increased by 20% to account for inflation in the current year.

25. STOCKS RESERVOIR

The Committee were informed that on 4th February 1980, the Regional Committee had resolved that the recommendation contained in Minute No. 12 of the last meeting of this Committee be not approved and the Water Management Committee be advised that in view of the present financial climate, the development of Stocks Reservoir primarily as a trout fishery be postponed, but that any development of an alternative site as a trout fishery be not allowed to prejudice the future development of Stocks Reservoir as such. A report outlining the effect of the recommendation was to be submitted to the Recreation Sub-Committee as soon as possible.

RESOLVED

That the report be received.

26. MARKET SURVEY AT WORTHINGTON LAKES

The Committee were informed that on 4th February 1980 the Regional Committee had resolved that the recommendation contained in Minute No. 18 of the last meeting of this Committee be not approved and that the Recreation Sub-Committee be advised that the Regional Committee recommended that Worthington Lake be retained as a coarse fishery for a minimum period of five years.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received.

27. MITTON FISHERY - REPORT ON MATCH FISHING 1979-80

The Committee received a report on the match fishing experiment at Mitton Fishery during the annual close season for salmon angling together with details of all fish caught. This indicated that fishing was marred this season by exceptionally persistent high water levels although the fishery was still proving popular as a venue for match fishing.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received and further reports on the match fishing at Mitton Fishery be submitted annually.

28. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 1980-81

The proposed dates for meetings of the Regional and Local Fisheries Advisory Committees for the 'Authority Year' 1980-81 were submitted for consideration.

The Chairman requested that the date of the June meeting of this Committee be altered from the date proposed.

RECOMMENDED:

That the dates for meetings of this Advisory Committee during the 'Authority Year' 1980-81, be as follows:

Thursday, 19th June, 1980
Wednesday, 15th October, 1980
Wednesday, 7th January, 1981
Wednesday, 1st April 1981.

29. REPORT BY THE AREA FISHERIES OFFICER ON FISHERIES ACTIVITIES

The Area Fisheries Officer presented his report on fisheries activities within the area since the last meeting of the Committee which included river conditions and fishing, migratory fish movement, the Langcliffe and Pilot hatcheries and stocking by the Authority and angling associations.

A summary of the monthly catches for rod and line, nets and fixed engines was submitted and the Area Fisheries Officer asked the Committee to impress again upon Clubs and Associations and the local press the need and statutory obligation for all holders of migratory fish licences to make a return of their catches for the Authority.

The Area Fisheries Officer also reported on the alleged illegal introduction of zander into the Leeds-Liverpool Canal at Maghull and Aintree and the Crossens drainage system. This indicated that following a short electro-fishing exercise at Maghull no zander were caught. However the Authority had asked in statements on local radio and television that anglers catching a fish suspected to be a zander should remove it from the canal and contact the Authority for positive identification.

F1/A21

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYSOUTH LANCASHIRE
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE19TH JUNE, 1980FISHING OFFENCES AND PROSECUTIONS 1979/80

1. The total number of persons prosecuted by this Authority within the whole Region for fishing offences during 1979/80 was 414 compared with 390 in 1978/79, which indicates that the number of prosecutions has been maintained at a reasonably consistent level.
2. In the area of this Committee, 2 persons were prosecuted for the use of illegal instruments, 28 for byelaw offences and giving false names and addresses and 68 for fishing without a licence. Action was taken on a further 28 cases which did not result in legal proceedings being instituted. These figures show a similar number of offences under the first two categories of offence, to last year, but an increase in the number of licence offences.
3. The following is a summary of offences and prosecutions within the Committee area during 1979/80.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Illegal</u> <u>Instruments</u>	<u>Byelaw offences</u> <u>and false names</u> <u>and addresses</u>	<u>Licence</u> <u>Offences</u>
Number of prosecutions	98	2	28	68
Warning letters	32	-	8	24
Other cases not taken to Court due to insufficient evidence or being unable to trace alleged offenders	28	-	6	22
Total fines imposed	£1,488	£300	£566	£622
Costs awarded to the Authority	£ 746	£202	£172	£372

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYSOUTH LANCASHIRE
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE19TH JUNE, 1980REPORT BY THE AREA FISHERIES OFFICER
ON FISHERIES ACTIVITIES

1. RIVER CONDITIONS AND FISHING

Weather conditions were variable throughout March with prolonged heavy rainfall and cold winds. Rivers were maintained above normal level providing ideal running conditions for migratory fish and three very clean fresh run salmon weighing 15 to 17 lbs. were taken from the lower reaches of the Ribble. Dry weather with falling river levels prevailed for most of April but nevertheless 11 salmon weighing 12 to 22 lbs were caught during the month including one of 17½ lbs at Grindleton.

In spite of the bad weather at the opening of the trout season, catches of trout from the rivers were quite reasonable, with fish in good condition for the time of year, and catches remained at an acceptable level to the end of April. Some good catches of both brown and rainbow trout were taken from the better stocked still-water fisheries during the review period although bags varied with the prevailing conditions.

End of season catches of coarse fish on the lower Ribble were below normal due to the bad weather conditions. The best recorded catch was 33 chub weighing 88 lbs and the best individual fish was a chub of 5 lbs. Barbel are now being caught more frequently and 2 x 10oz. fish were taken by an angler at Samlesbury during early March.

2. MIGRATORY FISH MOVEMENT

(i) River Hodder Winckley Hall

<u>1980</u>	<u>Fish under 4 lb</u>	<u>Fish over 4 lb</u>
January	0	0
February	0	0
March	6	0
April	101	3

(ii) River Ribble Waddow Weir

<u>1980</u>	<u>Fish under 4 lb</u>	<u>Fish over 4 lb</u>
January	0	0
February	0	0
March	5	0
April	55	7

(iii) River Ribble Locks Weir

<u>1980</u>	<u>Fish over 4 lb</u>
January	0
February	0
March	0
April	0

3. HATCHERIES

Langcliffe

3000 salmon ova and 7000 sea trout ova were retained at Langcliffe for further investigation into the mortalities in early feeding fry which have occurred over a number of years. All salmon ova had hatched by the second week of March and the sea trout had hatched by mid April. Losses in the salmon alevins and fry were normal and up to the time these small fish were taking food the total mortality amounted to only 5%.

Mortalities in the sea trout alevins were much higher than those in the salmon and amounted to 10% per week during the period when yolk-sac absorption was taking place. This high mortality resulted from constriction of the yolk-sac caused by severe diurnal fluctuations in temperature of the river water, which due to the low flows, ranged from 6°C to 18°C.

15,000 brown trout fry were transferred to Langcliffe from the Authority's Hollingworth Hatchery and these will be reared to a size of 6 inches plus, they will then be returned to Hollingworth for further development.

Pilot Hatchery

800 eyed rainbow trout ova were brought into the pilot hatchery to assess their performance in a re-circulating warm water system. The eggs were incubated at 10°C and the fry grown-on at around 17°C. The experimental fish hatched earlier and grew much faster than their siblings at Hollingworth hatchery. The experiment was brought to a premature end by an unscheduled power cut on Sunday 13th April, which killed all the trout fry and approximately 25% of the mirror carp fry in one tank. Two further tanks containing grass carp and larger mirror carp escaped without loss. The fish remaining continued to grow well with the best mirror carp from the September 1979 stripping approaching 1 Kg in weight. On 27th April, 1980, all the grass carp were taken to Trawsfynydd Lake to be reared on in cages in the warm water channel.

4. STOCKING BY THE AUTHORITY

<u>Date</u>	<u>Receiving Water</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Size</u>
13.3.80	River Ribble, Mitton Fishery	Hollingworth Hatchery	Brown Trout	150	10-12"
2.4.80	River Ribble, Mitton Fishery	Hollingworth Hatchery	Brown Trout	200	10-12"

5. TRANSFERS FOR CLUBS CARRIED OUT BY AUTHORITY STAFF

Non Migratory Trout

2,508 x 11" brown trout were netted on 2nd April, 1980, from a lodge at West Bradford by fisheries staff and transferred to the River Ribble between West Bradford and Grindleton.

Coarse Fish

<u>Date</u>	<u>Association or Individual</u>	<u>Receiving Water</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>
15.4.80	Cleveley Working Mens AC	Cemetery Pond Thornton	Ponds at Poulton-le-Fylde	Carp	4000
15.4.80	Fylde School Singleton	Fylde School Pond	Ponds at Poulton-le-Fylde	Carp	400

6. STOCKING BY ANGLING ASSOCIATIONS

During the review period 15 consents were issued for the introduction of non migratory trout and 2 consents were issued for the introduction of coarse fish. Details of these stockings and/or restocking are shown in the Appendix to this report.

7. POLLUTION INCIDENTS AND/OR FISH MORTALITIES

200 small bream and roach were found dead in Ball Grove Lodge, Colne, on 8th April. A sample of water was analysed and a sample of fish was examined but the cause of this mortality was not established.

60 brown trout from 5" to 15" were killed in Langcliffe Mill race on 14th April. Starch from a fractured pipe at Christies Mill is suspected to be the cause.

Dead perch were reported in Calder Vale Mill Lodge on 22nd April, other species were unaffected and Furunculosis is suspected.

SOUTH LANCASHIRE
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

APPENDIX

DETAILS OF STOCKING AND/OR RESTOCKING BY ANGLING ASSOCIATIONS

W-MIGRATORY TROUT

DATE	ASSOCIATION OR INDIVIDUAL	RECEIVING WATER	SOURCE	SPECIES	NO.	SIZE
3.80	C.W.S. Ltd.,	River Hodder	Dunsop T.F.	B. Trout	500	12"
3.80	Manchester Anglers	Newhouse Tarn	Annandale T.F.	R. Trout	500	12"
				R. Trout	30	14"
3.80	Padiham & Dist A.S.	R. Hodder, Lower Hodder Br.	Dunsop T.F.	B. Trout	250	10-11"
3.80	Kirkham & Dist F.F.	Grisedale Lea Reservoir	Lake District T.F.	R. Trout	370	14"
3.80	Blackburn & Dist AA	Parsonage Res.	Welham Park Fish Hatchery	B. Trout	500	10-12"
3.80	Manchester Anglers	R. Ribble, Horton	Humberside	B. Trout	850	8-9"
	" "	" Selside	"	B. Trout	200	8-9"
	" "	" Stainforth	Annandale T.F.	B. Trout	300	7"
3.80	Stocks A.C.	Stocks Res.	Dunsop T.F.	R. Trout	200	11-13"
3.80	Courtaulds A.A.	Grimsargh Res.	Dunsop T.F.	B. Trout	300	10-12"
3.80	Black Dog Fisheries	Whalley Abbey	Sinnington T.F.	R. Trout	300	12"
					200	14"
					25	2½ lbs
4.80	Barnsfold Waters Ltd	Barnsfold Res.	Roadwater Fisheries	B. Trout	1000	14-18"
4.80	Dunsop Shoot	River Hodder	Dunsop T.F.	B. Trout	200	10-12"
4.80	J. Douglas	Pendle Water	Dunsop T.F.	B. Trout	100	10-12"
				B. Trout	420	8-9"
4.80	Black Dog Fisheries	Whalley Abbey	Sinnington T.F.	R. Trout	200	12"
				R. Trout	150	14"
				R. Trout	25	2½ lbs
4.80	Colne Water A.C.	Colne Water	Dunsop Br. T.F.	B. Trout	50	11"
<u>RESTOCKING FISH</u>						
4.80	Northern A.A.	Brittania Mill Lodge	Humberside	Bream	100	4-6"
				Roach	100	4-6"
				Carp	100	4-6"
				Carp	40	8-10"
4.80	Platts A.C.	Weednook Lodge	Humberside	Carp	300	4-6"
				Carp	50	8-10"